

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A polishing apparatus comprising:

a top ring for holding a workpiece to be polished; and

a polishing table linearly movable relatively to said top ring, said polishing table having a polishing surface for polishing the workpiece held by said top ring;

wherein at least one of said top ring and said polishing table reciprocates linearly in a first direction.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a polishing liquid supply device for supplying a polishing liquid to said polishing surface.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a dresser which reciprocates linearly in a second direction for dressing said polishing surface.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of said dressers are provided in combination with said top ring.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said top ring reciprocates linearly in a third direction intersecting said first direction.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said top ring is rotatable about its axis.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said polishing surface has a groove formed therein for discharging a waste material from said polishing surface.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said

polishing table has a plurality of polishing surfaces having different levels of coarseness.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a linear motor for reciprocating said at least one of said top ring and said polishing table linearly in said first direction.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said polishing table is arranged to reciprocate linearly in said first direction, and supported by a linear guide under a fluid pressure.

Claim 11 (New) A polishing apparatus, comprising:
a top ring for holding a workpiece to be polished;
a linear guide;
a polishing table mounted on said linear guide so as to be capable of being linearly reciprocated along said linear guide in a first direction and so as to be reciprocable with respect to said top ring; and
at least one polishing pad fixed on said polishing table for polishing the workpiece held by said top ring.

Claim 12 (New) The polishing apparatus of claim 11, wherein said linear guide comprises a linear guide rail having a horizontal guide surface upon which said polishing table is mounted.

Claim 13 (New) The polishing apparatus of claim 11, wherein said at least one polishing pad fixed on said polishing table comprises a fixed abrasive.